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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 The top field of a coded picture is exclusively decoded. If the decoded
2 field is structured as field picture and the top field of a reference picture is
3 referenced, decoded motion vectors are used to perform a motion
4 compensation. If the nonexistent bottom field of the reference picture is
5 referenced, the decoded motion vectors are corrected so that they extend
6 from the top field of the reference picture to the decoded top field and a
7 motion compensation is performed using the corrected motion vectors. If the
8 decoded field is structured as frame picture and field estimation is used, the
9 same vector correction and motion compensation are repeated, and if frame
10 estimation is used, average values of successive lines of the top field of the
11 reference picture are calculated, the motion vectors are corrected using the
12 average values and a motion compensation is performed using the corrected
13 motion vectors.

TOP SECRET